

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
OPA-Rosebud Creek Crude E21702 - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VII

Subject: POLREP #2
OPA-Rosebud Creek Crude E21702

Rago, KS
Latitude: 37.4914160 Longitude: -98.0766360

To: Megan Schuette, USEPA

From: Daniel O'Crowley, OSC

Date: 4/6/2021

Reporting Period: 4/5/21-4/5/21

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Z7FQ	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	4/2/2021	Start Date:	4/2/2021
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:	E21702	Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

OPA Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Location

The site is located two miles north of Rago, Kingman County, Kansas. The latitude/longitude for the site is 37.491416, -98.076636. Surrounding land use is agricultural, but also includes a number of oil wells and tank batteries.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The spill appears to have originated in or near one of two small stock ponds (Pond 1 & 2) located adjacent to Rosebud Creek. Pond 1 flows into Pond 2 which then flows into Rosebud Creek. Rosebud Creek is a tributary of the Chikaskia River, which is located approximately two miles south of the spill location. A commercial minnow pond (Pond 3) is located approximately 0.75 miles downstream of the spill location. Pond 3 is also used as a livestock drinking water source.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

See Section 2.1.1

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

On March 24, 2021, the operator of an adjacent oil lease, Destiny Services, LLC (operator), discovered the spill. In coordination with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), the operator began installation of straw bale dams along the creek to contain the spill. Once straw bale dams were installed, the operator attempted to recover the oil using a vacuum truck. The operator conducted pressure testing of all oil production lines in the vicinity of the spill and was not able to identify a leak.

On April 1, 2021, the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) reported the spill to the National Response Center (NRC). KCC estimated the spill to be 100 barrels (4,200 gallons). An EPA On-Scene Coordinator

(OSC) was deployed to the Site. The OSC observed a significant amount of oil in the two stock ponds and along approximately 0.75 miles of Rosebud Creek. Additionally, due to a heavy rain event that occurred around the time of the spill, significant amounts of oil were observed up the sides of Rosebud Creek. Significant impacts were not noted in Pond 3, or in Rosebud Creek downstream of Pond 3.

The operator has given the following reasons they don't believe their oil production operation is the source of the spill: the oil lines in the area have been pressure tested and there were no drops in pressure; the oil wells in the area only produce 3 barrels/day, much less than has been discharged; and the wells produce light crude and the discharged material is much heavier. The operator also stated they did not have the ability to complete cleanup.

The KCC has identified one abandoned four-inch crude oil pipeline in the vicinity of the spill. KCC is still trying to identify additional abandoned pipelines that may be located in the area.

On April 2, 2021, EPA determined that a fund-lead removal action was appropriate to conduct the cleanup. At this time, the source of the spill is unknown.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

From March 24, 2021 to March 31, 2021, the operator estimated they were able to remove 1,345 gallons of oil.

On April 2, 2021, EPA activated START and ERRS.

On April 3, 2021, ERRS began removing oil from Pond 2 using a vacuum truck. An estimated 3,225 gallons of oil was removed from Pond 2. Absorbent boom was placed at the inlet of Pond 3, around the outlet pipe in Pond 3, and at a location on Rosebud Creek just upstream of the bridge along SE 110th Avenue.

On April 4, 2021 ERRS continued oil removal from Pond 2 using a vacuum truck. An estimated 775 gallons of oil was removed from Pond 2.

On April 5, 2021 ERRS continued oil removal from Pond 2 using a vacuum truck. An estimated 1,500 gallons of oil was removed from Pond 2.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

A PRP has not been identified at this time.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Oil		6,845 gallons			Currently staged on-site

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

EPA will continue to conduct cleanup activities at Pond 1, Pond 2, and Rosebud Creek.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

EPA in coordination with KCC will continue to research potential sources that may be located in the vicinity of the spill.

2.2.2 Issues

It appears the initial spill estimate of 4,200 gallons was significantly under reported. An estimated 6,845 gallons have been removed to date. Significant amounts of oil remain in Pond 1, Pond 2, and Rosebud Creek.

2.3 Logistics Section

ERRS and START are handling equipment logistics.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

On April 1, 2021, EPA requested \$20,000 from the National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC) to conduct assessment activities. On April 2, 2021, EPA requested a ceiling increase to \$120,000 from the NPFC. On April 3, 2021, EPA requested a ceiling increase to \$200,000 from the NPFC.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$100,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$60,000.00	60.00%
TAT/START	\$20,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$13,000.00	65.00%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$120,000.00	\$47,000.00	\$73,000.00	60.83%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Kansas Corporation Commission
Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment
Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism
U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Farm Services Agency

4. Personnel On Site

10 ERRS personnel
2 Start personnel
2 EPA OSCs

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Daily

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.